

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please add the following new paragraph after the paragraph on page 9, line 24 that ends with the words, "may also be used."

Another option in the method outlined in FIGURES 3A through 3C is to form stiffening panel 206 on a tool having a configuration substantially the same as the predetermined configuration, heat stiffening panel 206 to a state sufficient enough to enable handling of stiffening panel 206 while maintaining its configuration, and then dispose stiffening panel 206 outwardly from skin panel 202 and forming elements 204. Skin panel 202 and stiffening panel 206 may then be partially cured to create contact regions 210 between skin panel 202 and stiffening panel 206 before final curing skin panel 202 and stiffening panel 206. Fasteners 208 may also be used in this option.